

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Duane Ankney, on March 9, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)  
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)  
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)  
Sen. Sue Malek (D)  
Sen. Mary McNally (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)  
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)  
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)  
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)  
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Pat Connell, Vice Chair (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary  
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 20, 2/3/2017; HB 22, 3/6/2017

00:00:55 Chair Ankney

**HEARING ON HB 20**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:31 Rep. Jim Keane (D), HD 73, opened the hearing on HB 20, Repeal renewable energy credit reporting requirements.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:02:33 John Alke, NorthWestern Energy  
00:04:04 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association  
00:05:21 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:06:06 Rep. Keane

**HEARING ON HB 22**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:06:26 Rep. Jim Keane (D), HD 73, opened the hearing on HB 22, Appropriate money to assist/intervene/plan for closure of coal-fired generation.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:07:26 Jon Bennion, Attorney General's Office, Department of Justice (DOJ)  
00:08:59 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center  
00:11:18 Dave Galt , Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties  
00:11:59 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties  
00:12:43 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns  
00:13:27 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip, City of Glendive, Rosebud County

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:14:36 Sen. Wolken  
00:16:01 Rep. Keane  
00:16:21 Mr. Bennion, DOJ

00:16:49 Sen. Wolken  
00:17:15 Mr. Bennion  
00:18:26 Sen. Barrett  
00:18:59 Mr. Bennion  
00:19:48 Sen. Barrett

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:20:03 Rep. Keane  
00:21:52 Chair Ankney

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:25 PM

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Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ens49aad.pdf](#))